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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/797,913	03/10/2004	Brad A. Medford	1033-LB1044	3342
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			EXAMINER NGUYEN, ANH NGOC M	
			ART UNIT 2473	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/797,913

Applicant(s)

MEDFORD, BRAD A.

Examiner

Anh Ngoc Nguyen

Art Unit

2473

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 September 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 8, 15 - 17 and 25 - 32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 8, 15 - 17 and 25 - 32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB06)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's Arguments/Remarks filed September 22, 2010 with respect to claims 1 – 8, 15 – 17 and 25 – 32 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicant's amendment to claim 7 has overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7 and 15 have been amended. Claims 27 – 32 are new. Claims 1 – 8, 15 – 17 and 25 – 32 are pending.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 1, 5, 15, 28 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The original disclosure of specification (US Pub. No. 2005/0201384) merely discloses the phase modulator 62 performs an act of modulating a phase of ATM signal 60 based on the IP signal 56 to form a combined ATM/IP signal 64 [para. 0017], however it does not disclose the following: regarding claim 1, wherein the combined ATM/IP signal comprises an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) signal comprising a sequence of pulses that are pulse

amplitude modulated according to first data that is distinct from second data; regarding claim 5, modulating by pulse amplitude modulation; regarding claim 15, wherein the ATM signal is pulse amplitude modulated with an ATM data stream; regarding claim 28, wherein pulse amplitude modulating includes setting an amplitude of each pulse of the ATM signal according to a value of a corresponding bit of the first data; regarding claim 29, wherein the first signal is an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) signal that is pulse amplitude modulated based on first information.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 5, 8, 15, 25, 29 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Levi et al. (US 7,376,144) in view of Davis et al. (5,459,600) and further in view of Renucci et al. (US PN. 6,996,134).

Levi discloses protocol for native service transport over point to multipoint passive optical network comprising the following features:

Regarding claim 1, Levi discloses a method comprising: communicating an a combined asynchronous transfer mode/internet protocol (ATM/IP) signal via an optical medium (see abstract, col. 1 lines 45 – 67, col. 2 lines 1 – 11, col. 3 lines 1 – 10 lines 50 - 60, Fig. 1, Fig. 2, IP 14 and ATM 16 within frame 1 are sent in a optical path).

Regarding claim 8, Levi discloses wherein the combined ATM/IP signal is communicated via a passive optical network (see Fig. 1, Fig. 2, col. 1 lines 65 – 67 and col. 2 lines 1 – 12, IP 14 and ATM 16 within frame 1 are sent in a optical path; see abstract, over a passive optical network).

Regarding claim 29, Levi discloses a method comprising: phase modulating a first signal based on second information to produce a combined signal, wherein the first information is distinct from the second information; and transmitting the combined signal via an optical medium (see Fig. 1, Fig. 2, col. 1 lines 65 – 67 and col. 2 lines 1 – 12, IP 14 and ATM 16 within frame 1 are sent in a optical path; see abstract, over a passive optical network).

Regarding claim 30, Levi discloses wherein the second information includes an internet protocol (IP) stream (see abstract, col. 1 lines 50 – 54, LT transmitting downstream includes IP data).

Levi discloses the claimed limitation as stated above. However, Levi does not disclose the feature of phase modulation of two signals (ATM and IP).

Davis discloses using phase modulators to modulate signals (payload) wherein the signals may be of the same or different protocols (i.e. ATM, IP...etc...) (see abstract, col. 9 lines 7 - 15).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Levi, and use a phase modulator to modulate signals of the same or different protocol, as taught by Davis, in order to provide an optical telecommunication system with a reduced number of optical components for multiplexing various payloads on the same optical transmission path, as discussed by Davis (see col. 3 lines 9 - 14).

Regarding claim 1, the combination of Levi and Davis disclose wherein the combined ATM/IP signal comprises an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) signal that is phase modulated with signal data that is based on an internet protocol (IP) signal (see Levi: Fig. 1, Fig. 2, shown are frames with IP 14 and ATM 16; note: IP service block 14 contains IP packet...see Davis: abstract, col. 9 lines 6 – 15, Fig. 2, Fig. 3, 26F and 26S are phase modulators for modulating signals).

Regarding claim 5, the combination of Levi and Davis disclose further comprising forming the combined ATM/IP signal by; phase modulating the ATM signal based on the IP signal (see Levi: Fig. 1, Fig. 2, shown are frames with both IP 14 and ATM 16 together; see Davis: abstract, col. 9 lines 6 – 15, Fig. 2, Fig. 3, 26F and 26S are phase modulators for modulating signals).

Regarding claim 15, Levi discloses an apparatus to communicate an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) signal and an internet protocol (IP) signal (see abstract, Fig. 1, Fig. 2, col. 1 lines 45 – 67, col. 2 lines 1 - 11, frame 1 with IP 14 and ATM 16 are sent downstream and upstream), the apparatus comprising: an optical line terminal (OLT) (see col. 1 lines 49 – 54, col. 5 lines 4 – 25 lines 55 - 60, LT – line termination).

Regarding claim 25, the combination of Levi and Davis disclose further comprising demodulating a received signal (see Davis: col. 9 lines 40 – 44, demodulation may occur by use of a receiver unit) and outputting a received IP stream derived from the received signal (see Levi: col. 6 lines 1 – 8, the NT's use this information to filter and delineate IP packets in the IP service block).

Levi discloses the features of claim 15 as stated above and further shows an ATM and an IP signal with the same frame (Fig. 1, Fig. 2). Levi does not disclose a phase modulator.

Davis discloses using phase modulators to modulate signals (payload) wherein the signals may be of the same or different protocols (i.e. ATM, IP) (see abstract, col. 9 lines 7 - 15).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Levi, and use a phase modulator to modulate signals of the same or different protocol, as taught by Davis, in order to provide an optical telecommunication system with a reduced number of optical components for multiplexing various payloads on the same optical transmission path, as discussed by Davis (see col. 3 lines 9 - 14).

Regarding claim 15, the combination of Levi and Davis disclose the OLT (see Levi: abstract, col. 1 lines 49 - 54, LT-line termination in a passive optical network) comprising a phase modulator configured to phase modulate the ATM signal based on the IP signal to produce a combined asynchronous transfer mode/internet protocol (ATM/IP) signal (see Levi: Fig. 1, Fig. 2, shown are frames with both IP 14 and ATM 16 together; see Davis: abstract, col. 9 lines 6 - 15, Fig. 2, Fig. 3, 26F and 26S are phase modulators for modulating signals), the OLT further to output the combined ATM/IP signal (see Levi: Fig. 1, Fig. 2, where shown are frames with IP 14 and ATM 16 sent together downstream and upstream).

Levi and Davis disclose the claimed limitations as stated above. Levi and Davis do not disclose the following features: regarding claim 1, an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) signal comprising a sequence of pulses that are pulse amplitude modulated according to first data that is distinct from second data; regarding claim 5, modulating by pulse amplitude, the ATM signal according to the first data; regarding claim 15, wherein the ATM signal is pulse amplitude

modulated with an ATM data stream; regarding claim 29, wherein the first signal is an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) signal that is pulse amplitude modulated based on first information.

Regarding claim 1, Renucci discloses an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) signal comprising a sequence of pulses that are pulse amplitude modulated according to first data that is distinct from second data (see col. 5 lines 20 – 38, col. 12 lines 16 – 20, the content for the first and second subscriber lines using Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) cells...digital modulator/demodulator 58 may use a number of ISDN 2B1Q transceivers which merge telecommunication information from two subscriber lines into one modulated signal using pulse-amplitude modulation (PAM)).

Regarding claim 5, Renucci discloses modulating by pulse amplitude, the ATM signal according to the first data (see col. 5 lines 20 – 38, col. 12 lines 16 – 20, the content for the first and second subscriber lines using Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) cells...digital modulator/demodulator 58 may use a number of ISDN 2B1Q transceivers which merge telecommunication information from two subscriber lines into one modulated signal using pulse-amplitude modulation (PAM)).

Regarding claim 15, Renucci discloses wherein the ATM signal is pulse amplitude modulated with an ATM data stream (see col. 5 lines 20 – 38, col. 12 lines 16 – 20, the content for the first and second subscriber lines using Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) cells...digital modulator/demodulator 58 may use a number of ISDN 2B1Q transceivers which merge telecommunication information from two subscriber lines into one modulated signal using pulse-amplitude modulation (PAM)).

Regarding claim 29, Renucci discloses wherein the first signal is an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) signal that is pulse amplitude modulated based on first information (see col. 5 lines 20 – 38, col. 12 lines 16 – 20, the content for the first and second subscriber lines using Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) cells...digital modulator/demodulator 58 may use a number of ISDN 2B1Q transceivers which merge telecommunication information from two subscriber lines into one modulated signal using pulse-amplitude modulation (PAM)).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Levi and Davis, and have the features, as taught by Renucci, in order for communicating content for multiple subscriber lines via a single physical transmission medium that substantially eliminates or reduces disadvantages or problems associated with previously developed systems and methods, as discussed by Renucci (col. 1 lines 50- 67).

6. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Levi et al. (US 7,376,144) in view of Davis et al. (5,459,600) and further in view of Renucci et al. (US PN. 6,996,134), Edasawa et al. (US 6,831,981).

Levi, Davis and Renucci disclose the claimed limitations as stated above. Levi, Davis and Renucci do not specifically disclose regarding claim 6, wherein the combined ATM/IP signal is transmitted via an ATM-based network comprising a G.983-based network.

Regarding claim 6, Edasawa discloses wherein the combined ATM/IP signal is transmitted via an ATM-based network comprising a G.983-based network (see col. 1 lines 42 – 45, G.983 that is ITU-T recommendation is set up in the ATM-PON system).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Levi, Davis and Renucci to include ONTs with and without a

demodulator, as taught by Edasawa, in order to improve the efficiencies of unicasting, vendor broadcasting, group broadcasting, ciphering, and deciphering, as discussed by Edasawa (see col. 3 lines 60 - 63).

7. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Levi et al. (US 7,376,144) in view of Davis et al. (5,459,600) and further in view of Renucci et al. (US PN. 6,996,134), Edasawa et al. (US 6,831,981) and Lee et al. (US 2004/0264400).

Regarding claim 7, Levi discloses wherein the first ONT is at a first location and the second ONT is at a second location (see Fig. 1, Fig. 2, col. 1 lines 65 – 67 and col. 2 lines 1 – 12, a point to multipoint network...to multiple NT's) and wherein the first ONT is to extract the first data comprising an AMT stream uniquely associated with the first user location (col. 5 lines 55 – 64, the NT's filter ATM cells in the ATM service block using the ATM header itself...and the NT's read the virtual path address).

Levi shows in Figure 1 and Figure 2 a combined ATM/IP signal. Levi, Davis and Renucci disclose the claimed limitations as stated above. Levi, Davis and Renucci do not specifically disclose regarding claim 1, transmitting the combined ATM/IP signal via the optical medium to a first optical network termination (ONT), wherein the first ONT does not include demodulator circuitry; and transmitting the combined ATM/IP signal to a second ONT, wherein the second ONT includes the demodulator circuitry.

Regarding claim 7, Edasawa and Lee disclose wherein communicating comprises: transmitting the combined ATM/IP signal via the optical medium to a first optical network termination (ONT), wherein the first ONT does not include demodulator circuitry (see Edasawa: Fig. 16, ONUs 20_1 to 20_n with no demodulators...) and transmitting the combined ATM/IP

signal to a second ONT, wherein the second ONT includes the demodulator circuitry (see Lee: Fig. 2, Fig. 4, QAM demodulators 222, 223, para. 0020, 0030).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Levi, Davis and Renucci to include ONTs with and without a demodulator, in order to improve the efficiencies of unicasting, vendor broadcasting, group broadcasting, ciphering, and deciphering, as discussed by Edasawa (see col. 3 lines 60 - 63) and in order to use an ONT that can employ a low price optical receiver meeting relatively low quality specifications, as discussed by Lee (see para. 0018).

8. Claims 2 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Levi et al. (US 7,376,144) in view of Davis et al. (5,459,600) and further in view of Renucci et al. (US PN. 6,996,134) and Aliahmad et al. (US 6,479,978).

Levi and Davis disclose the ATM signal is phase modulated based on the IP signal.

Regarding claim 2, Aliahmad discloses wherein the ATM signal is phase modulated based on the IP signal without exceeding a specified tolerance of a symbol period of the ATM signal (see col. 1 lines 40 - 56, to ensure that the phase difference between signals 106 and 107 is within acceptable tolerances of the expected phase shift from phase modulator 102...).

Regarding claim 16, Aliahmad discloses wherein the phase modulator is further configured to phase modulate the ATM signal based on the IP signal without exceeding a specified tolerance of a symbol period of the ATM signal (see col. 1 lines 40 - 56, to ensure that the phase difference between signals 106 and 107 is within acceptable tolerances of the expected phase shift from phase modulator 102...).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Levi, Davis and Renucci, and have the features, as taught by Aliahmad, in order to provide precise timing measurement, as discussed by Aliahmad (see col. 1 lines 12 - 15).

9. Claims 3, 4, 17, 27, 31 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Levi et al. (US 7,376,144) in view of Davis et al. (5,459,600) and further in view of Renucci et al. (US PN. 6,996,134) and Beidas et al (6,608,874).

Levi and Davis disclose the phase modulation of IP and ATM signals but do not specifically disclose the phase modulation of multiple bits as stated below. Levi, Davis and Renucci do not disclose the following features: regarding claim 3, wherein the phase modulating encodes multiple bits of the IP signal per pulse in the ATM signal; regarding claim 4, wherein the phase modulating encodes two bits of the IP signal per pulse in the ATM signal; regarding claim 17, wherein the phase modulator is further configured to encode multiple bits of the IP signal per pulse in the ATM signal; regarding claim 27, wherein the phase modulator is further configured to encode the ATM signal with two bits of data from the IP signal per pulse; regarding claim 31, wherein the ATM signal comprises a plurality of pulses and wherein the phase modulating encodes multiple bits per pulse of the ATM signal; regarding claim 32, wherein the ATM signal comprises a plurality of pulses and wherein the phase modulating encodes two bits per pulse of the ATM signal.

Beidas discloses method and apparatus for quadrature multi pulse modulation of data for spectrally efficient communication comprising the following features:

Regarding claim 3, Beidas discloses wherein the phase modulating encodes multiple bits of the IP signal per pulse in the ATM signal (see col. 1 lines 34 – 67, communicating two bits of information on each quadrature component of a carrier signal during a single signaling interval).

Regarding claim 4, Beidas discloses wherein the phase modulating encodes two bits of the IP signal per pulse in the ATM signal (see col. 1 lines 34 – 67, communicating two bits of information on each quadrature component of a carrier signal during a single signaling interval).

Regarding claim 17, Beidas discloses wherein the phase modulator is further configured to encode multiple bits of the IP signal per pulse in the ATM signal (see col. 1 lines 34 – 67, communicating two bits of information on each quadrature component of a carrier signal during a single signaling interval).

Regarding claim 27, Beidas discloses wherein the phase modulator is further configured to encode the ATM signal with two bits of data from the IP signal per pulse (see col. 1 lines 34 – 67, communicating two bits of information on each quadrature component of a carrier signal during a single signaling interval).

Regarding claim 31, Beidas discloses wherein the ATM signal comprises a plurality of pulses and wherein the phase modulating encodes multiple bits per pulse of the ATM signal (see col. 1 lines 34 – 67, communicating two bits of information on each quadrature component of a carrier signal during a single signaling interval).

Regarding claim 32, Beidas discloses wherein the ATM signal comprises a plurality of pulses and wherein the phase modulating encodes two bits per pulse of the ATM signal (see col. 1 lines 34 – 67, communicating two bits of information on each quadrature component of a carrier signal during a single signaling interval).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Levi, Davis and Renucci, and have the features, as taught by Beidas, in order to minimize as possible as possible the power required for data transmission for cost and energy conservation, as discussed by Beidas (see col. 2 lines 26 - 30).

10. Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Levi et al. (US 7,376,144) in view of Davis et al. (5,459,600) and further in view of Renucci et al. (US PN. 6,996,134) and Czerwicz et al. (US PN. 6,940,859).

Levi, Davis and Renucci do not disclose regarding claim 26, wherein the OLT further comprises a phase demodulator.

Regarding claim 26, Czerwicz discloses wherein the OLT further comprises a phase demodulator (see col. 28 lines 27 – 34, the line termination...wherein said demodulated and decoded broadband signal is demodulated according to a carrierless amplitude and phase demodulation technique).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Levi, Davis and Renucci, and have the features, as taught by Czerwicz, in order to solve the management problems by combining data management features of ATM with physical layer transmission flexibility of xDSL, as discussed by Czerwicz (see col. 1 lines 42 - 45).

11. Claim 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Levi et al. (US 7,376,144) in view of Davis et al. (5,459,600) and further in view of Renucci et al. (US PN. 6,996,134) and Nishio (PN. No. 5,432,627).

Levi, Davis and Renucci do not disclose regarding claim 28, wherein pulse amplitude modulating includes setting an amplitude of each pulse of the ATM signal according to a value of a corresponding bit of the first data.

Regarding claim 28, Nishio discloses wherein pulse amplitude modulating includes setting an amplitude of each pulse of the ATM signal according to a value of a corresponding bit of the first data (see col. 5 lines 1 – 25, the routing header bits of ATM cells corresponds to the amplitude of the electrical pulse).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Levi, Davis and Renucci, and have the features, as taught by Nishio, in order to reduce the optical header bits of an optical ATM switching system to improve the throughput, as discussed by Nishio (see col. 1 lines 50 - 54).

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Examiner's Note: Examiner has cited particular paragraphs, columns and line numbers in the references applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the Examiner. In the case of amending the claimed invention, Applicant is respectfully requested to indicate the portion(s) of the specification which dictate(s) the structure relied on for proper interpretation and, also to verify and ascertain the metes and bounds of the Claimed invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh Ngoc Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 270-5139. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F, from 7AM to 3PM (alternate first Friday off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kwang Yao can be reached on 5712723182. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Anh Ngoc Nguyen/
Examiner, Art Unit 2473
December 3, 2010

/KWANG B. YAO/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2473